crores in 1992-93. Current position is as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	NABARD Refinance
1992-93	2359
1993-94	2745
1994-95 (Allocation . .	2850

There has been a quantum jump in refinance support for short-term (Seasonal) Agricultural Operations) from Rs. 1347 crores (1982-83) to Rs. 3701 crores (1992-93). The current position of credit limits for SAO is as under:—

Year	State Coop. Bank:	Regional Rural Banks	Total
1993-94 (upto 31-12-93)	3260	373	3633
1994-95 (Estimated) .	32.00	400	4200

Closing of Bank branches in Hong Kong Kong

7532. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to close down some branches of nationalised banks in Hong Kong immediately in a move to rid them of their loss making branches; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that after considering the recommendations of a team deputed by it to look into the viability of branches in Hong Kong, it has been decided to restructure the branch network of Indian banks in Hong Kong during 1994-95, RBI has accordingly advised the banks to close 3 out of 7 branches functioning in that country.

Final Payment of G P F to Former Employees of D O E

7533. SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of cases for final payment of General Provident Fund account pending in the Department of Expenditure;

(b) Whether Government have received any requests for clearance of GPF final payment cases pertaining to the former employees of the Department of Expenditure;

(c) if so, since when these cases have been pending and the reasons for the delay in clearing the same; and

(d) what steps are being taken for early disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d) All applications received upto 31st May, 1994 for final payment of accumulations in the General Provident Fund from former employees of the Department of Expenditure have been cleared.

Central Approval for reliefs in Sales Tax in Delhi

7534. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: